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THE HARVARD LEGAL AID BUREAU. — It has been recognized as a grave defect in a system of technical law that its benefits are often available only to those who can meet the expense of hiring counsel. The legal aid bureaus, now established in all the larger cities, and designed to furnish free legal advice and assistance where it is most needed, are performing an important function in rendering the law of more general serviceableness. In the city of Cambridge this work has been performed faithfully, and with growing success, by the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, conducted by students at the Law School, and now entering on its fourth year.

During the past year 191 cases were brought before the Bureau, 18 of them going to trial. All of these latter were won in the court of first instance, and two of them, which have been appealed, will be argued by members this year. The number of cases brought to the Bureau during October of this year shows an increase of fifty per cent over the number brought in during the same period last year.

The officers and members for the coming year are as follows: P. V. McNutt, President; F. L. Daily, Vice-President; A. E. Case, Secretary; J. H. Philbin and B. D. Edwards, Directors; J. P. Begley, J. E. Bennett, W. F. Cahill, T. W. Doan, Shelton Hale, W. W. Hodson, F. S. Moulton, D. C. Pitcher, W. F. Rogers, H. A. Scragg, E. B. Shea, E. O. Tabor, R. B. Wigglesworth, from the Third Year Class; and G. B. Barrett, Lawrence Clayton, R. C. Foster, M. M. Manning, A. L. Rabb, G. S. Pitney, Marion Rushton, O. G. Saxon, and E. C. Thayer, from the Second Year Class.

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CONDEMNATION BY THE ENGLISH PRIZE COURT OF AMERICAN CARGOES CONSIGNED TO COPENHAGEN. — On September 16, 1915, Sir Samuel Evans handed down a Prize Court decision, which must be regarded, if it is supported in the future, as a momentous step in the development of belligerent rights. Reports of the case are now available through the British legal periodicals. *The Kim*, *The Alfred Nobel*, *The Bjornstern Bjornson*, and *The Fridland*, L. J. 463 (Sept. 25, 1915).<sup>1</sup> The vessels in question must not be confused with the thirty-one vessels which sailed between February 9 and April 17 from this country and are still detained by England under the blockade Order in Council of March 11, 1915. The two groups of vessels involve very different questions, though both are loosely referred to as the "Packers' Cases," from the nature of their cargoes.

The vessels whose cargoes were in large part condemned<sup>2</sup> were all neutral Scandinavian bottoms bound for Copenhagen, a neutral port, carrying goods owned by neutral American shippers. The cargoes consisted of foodstuffs, still nominally recognized by England as conditional contraband, and rubber, which since the outbreak of the war she has

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<sup>1</sup> See also LONDON TIMES, Sept. 17, 1915, p. 3, and 59 SOL. J. 752.

<sup>2</sup> The penalty of condemnation is itself unusual. It is customary simply to preempt contraband when it is merely conditional or is a product native to the exporting country. *The Sarah and Bernhardus*, 1 Marriott, 96. See HALL, INTERNATIONAL LAW, 6 ed., 663; BATY & MORGAN, WAR, ITS CONDUCT AND LEGAL RESULTS, 372.